

REMARKS

In response to the above-noted Office Action Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 8 responsive to the rejection of Claims 1-3 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. It is submitted that these amendments are fully responsive to the rejection.

Additionally, Applicant has cancelled withdrawn Claims 4 and 5 and corrected the status of Claim 6 to be "Original".

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all outstanding requirements have been complied with and the claims pending for examination, namely claims 1 – 3 and 6 - 9 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

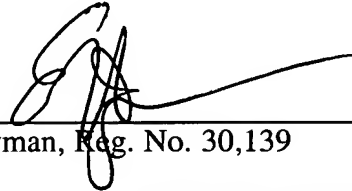
Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: _____

2/20/04

Eric S. Hyman, Reg. No. 30,139



12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 207-3800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail , With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop AF – Non-Fee, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1340, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Linda Marie D'Elia

2-20-2004
February 20, 2004